

Maine Revised Statutes

Title 5: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND SERVICES

Chapter 153: PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

§1766. USE OF BIOMASS AND SOLID WASTE FUELS IN STATE FACILITIES

For the purposes of the installation, development or operation of any energy production improvement at or in connection with a state facility, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, any department or agency of the State, subject to approval of the Bureau of General Services, may enter into an agreement with a private party under which the private party may, for consideration, lease or otherwise acquire property interest, exclusive of ownership in fee, in land, buildings or other existing heating facilities and right of access thereto; as long as any improvement to the land, buildings or other existing heating facility installed, erected, owned, developed or operated by the private party utilizes biomass, solid waste or some combination of biomass and solid waste for at least 50% of its total energy input. The duration of the agreement may not exceed 20 years. [2011, c. 691, Pt. B, §16 (AMD).]

The private party undertaking the installation, erection, ownership, development or operation of such an improvement may cogenerate thermal energy and electricity and may sell thermal energy to a state facility located at or near the site of the improvement. The private party may sell thermal energy in excess of the requirements of the state facility to any other customer and may sell cogenerated electricity to the state facility. [1999, c. 657, §1 (AMD).]

A forest harvest operation to supply biomass fuel to the improvement shall be conducted in accordance with a landowner's forest management plan approved by a registered professional forester. The private party undertaking the improvement shall make available the services of a registered professional forester at no cost to a landowner whose land will be harvested to provide biomass fuel to the improvement. [1983, c. 803, (NEW).]

Any department or agency of the State, subject to approval by the Bureau of General Services, at the termination of the agreement with the private party pursuant to this section, may acquire, operate and maintain the improvement, may renew the agreement with the private party or may make an agreement with another private party to operate and maintain the improvement. [2011, c. 691, Pt. B, §16 (AMD).]

All agreements made with private parties as contemplated in this section shall be subject to review by a subcommittee of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs. [1983, c. 803, (NEW).]

The provisions of section 1587 shall not apply to an agreement with a private party as contemplated in this section except, in the event that the state department or agency chooses to exercise an option to purchase energy production improvements, the department or agency before or at the time of the exercise of the option shall submit the proposed purchase of the energy production improvements for approval by the Legislature through the usual budget procedure. [1983, c. 803, (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

1983, c. 803, (NEW). 1999, c. 657, §1 (AMD). 2011, c. 691, Pt. B, §16 (AMD).

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